The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, July 9, 1996 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, Michigan.


It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the Finance/Personnel Committee Meeting held on June 25, 1996 and the Committee of the Whole meeting held on June 25, 1996 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. John Korhonen, Ishpeming City Manager and U.P. Representative to the Rural Development Council of Michigan was present to provide a report on AMR Eagle negotiations. Mr. David Skjaerlund, Executive Director of RDCM, Bob Naerembout, Vice-Chairman, and Harry Brumer, District Director, came to the Upper Peninsula on July 8th and had a tour of the K.I. Sawyer Facility and a briefing regarding the closure and conversion progress and were very impressed with the assets there. Meetings took place with the West Branch Township Supervisor, Barry Bahrmam, Joan Sigler of the OEA, and the Lake Superior Jobs Coalition.

Mr. Korhonen further explained that the Rural Development Council of Michigan will deal with the short term objectives regarding the AMR Eagle relocation which must be completed by August 1st. They are scheduling a meeting on July 29th at the Base Conversion Authority offices with all parties involved in the negotiation process being invited. It is hoped that many matters can be resolved prior to this meeting with the ultimate objective of reaching agreement that evening. Between now and the 29th the revenues and capital expenditures must be coordinated so we can narrow in on operating costs. AMR Eagle should be invited to attend this meeting.

Chairperson Corkin thanked Mr. Korhonen for his efforts and those of the RDCM which hopefully will have positive results.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Trudell and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following late addition: Item 15) Delegates Appointed to the MERS Annual Meeting, Item 16) Law Enforcement Block Grant from Community Corrections Advisory Committee, and Item 17) Commission Meeting Room Sound System.

It was moved by Comm. Braamse, seconded by Comm. Rapport and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period June 21, 1996, through July 5, 1996 in the amount of $1,113,044.83 be approved.

The Committee considered an audit update and mid-year budget review from Gary Yoder, Finance Manager. Mr. Yoder distributed a copy of Anderson, Tackman & Company’s Comprehensive Annual Audit for 1995. John Blumberg from Anderson, Tackman will be present at the July 23rd Committee of the Whole Meeting to review the audit and answer questions.

Mr. Yoder further reported that financially the County appears to be in better financial shape than they have been for the last several years. The General Fund has a unreserved balance of $314,463 which will be used to eliminate a fund deficit in the Probate Child Care Fund of $39,691. This remaining balance will be recommended for transfer to the Budget Stabilization Fund.

The mid-year budget review process will be transmitted to all departments by the 12th of July with instructions to have them returned by July 26th. This will allow time to prepare recommendations before the Committee of the Whole meeting of August 13th. As of today budget reports for June are not printed. Mr. Yoder understands Commissioner’s concern’s about the County’s financial condition, however, assured them that nothing different is happening this year than has happened in prior years regarding the timing of these matters.
It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Minelli and unanimously carried by voice vote to place the communication on file.

The Committee considered the K.I. Sawyer Governance Interlocal Agreement creating the planning and redevelopment entity known as the Central Upper Peninsula Sawyer Redevelopment Authority pursuant to provisions of the Urban Cooperation Act of 1967 (PA 7 of 1967). Barry Bahrman, West Branch Township Supervisor, was present and explained that this agreement allows for the expansion of the authority should the County Board hopefully become a participant in the K.I. Sawyer governance. He believes that two separate entities, one to run the airport, which would be the County, and the other to run the rest of the base property under the Governance Agreement would have many difficulties. It would be better if one entity administered the whole base. Mr. Bahrman is forming a "working group" with two representatives of each Township, and requested that the County Board provide two members. He would like to meet on Thursday morning, July 11th at 7:00 a.m.

It was moved by Comm. Trudell, seconded by Comm. Braamse and unanimously carried by voice vote that Comm. Minelli and Comm. Bergdahl represent the County Board on the working group.

It was moved by Comm. Minelli, seconded by Comm. Arsenault and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole accept in concept the K.I. Sawyer Governance Interlocal Agreement and have it reviewed administratively and legally for further consideration at the July 23rd Committee of the Whole meeting.

The Committee considered a Planning Commission recommendation that the County Board of Commissioners adopt the County Community Services and Facilities Plan and the County Land Use/Value/Ownership Plan as policy documents and include them in the County's Comprehensive Plan.

Joe Erickson, Vice-Chairperson of the Marquette County Planning Commission, was present to discuss the plans and answer questions. The Planning Commission conducted two public hearings at a special meeting held Wednesday, June 19, 1996 to gather public comment on the proposed County plans. The County Planning Act of 1945 requires that the Planning Commission conduct public hearings prior to adopting the plan. Each respective document identifies community services and land use issues facing Marquette County in light of the closure of K.I. Sawyer and identifies County level strategies to address these issues. The Community Services Plan replaces Chapter 10 in the Comprehensive Plan, and the new Land Use/Value/Ownership Plan consolidates several Comprehensive Plan sections into a single document.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Minelli, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board adopt the County Community Services and Facilities Plan and the County Land Use/Value/Ownership Plan as policy documents and make them part of the County's Comprehensive Plan.

The Committee considered comments from the Resource Management/Development Department and Planning Commission regarding the Michigan Gray Wolf Recovery and Management Plan. Al Feldhauser, Planner, was present and explained in general the County Planning Commission was supportive of wolf recovery in the Upper Peninsula, however were not interested in large tracts of land being taken out of timber production or restricted from other uses to serve as a "wolf preserve". They believe that improved public opinion is the method for success in establishing a wolf population rather than government regulations.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Joseph and unanimously carried by voice vote to place the communication on file.
The Committee considered a public notice of the Tilden Mining Company Permit Application which will allow the creation of additional tailing storage capacity which is necessary for continued production at the Tilden Mine. Al Feldhuaser, Planner, was present to explain that the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality is seeking public comment from those who may be opposed to the process. Objections must be factual and specific and fully describe the reasons upon which an objection is founded and filed within 20 days of receiving this notice. The Planning Staff's recommendation is that the permit application not be opposed.

It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Minelli and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board place the communication on file.

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The Committee of the Whole considered a notice from the Department of Environmental Quality on the Empire Mine Permit Application to convert Kiln No. 3 by replacing an existing natural gas burner. Al Feldhuaser, Planner, was present and pointed out that it is Staff's recommendation that this permit request not be opposed.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Braamse and unanimously carried by voice vote to place the communication on file.

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The County Board considered Social Services Application and the Marquette General Home Health Services Application for Title IIIB Funds to the UPAAA for services to the elderly. David Thayer, Director, Commission on Aging, was present and pointed out that the County Board recently endorsed applications from the Commission on Aging, the Marquette County Health Department, and AMCA, however, there is a requirement by the UPAAA that all applications for Title IIIB funds must be reviewed. The County Board only has to accept these applications for review and file.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Trudell and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole accept these applications for review and place them on file.

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The Committee considered a suggestion from County Clerk Dave Roberts for a meeting schedule change for July/August. Chairperson Corkin pointed out that because July is a five Tuesday Month it is possible to move the August 6th Regular County Board Meeting up to July 30, 1996 which would accomplish two things: Avoid holding a County Board Meeting on the night of the August Primary Election and also provide a Regular Board Meeting just prior to the August 1st deadline to consider the AMR Eagle proposal.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Trudell, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board adopt the following meeting schedule for July/August, 1996.

| Regular County Board Meeting    | July 16, 1996  | 7:00 p.m. |
| Committee of the Whole Meeting | July 23, 1996  | 6:00 p.m. |
| Regular County Board Meeting    | July 30, 1996  | 7:00 p.m. |
| **NO MEETING**                  | **August 6, 1996** | **Primary Election** |
| Committee of the Whole Meeting  | August 13, 1996 | 6:00 p.m. |
| Regular County Board Meeting    | August 20, 1996 | 7:00 p.m. |
| Committee of the Whole Meeting  | August 27, 1996 | 6:00 p.m. |
Chairperson Corkin announced that any Commissioners interested in attending the MAC Conference, August 18-21 contact Karla Hardy, Administrator’s Office, by July 22nd.

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The Committee considered a recommendation from Randell Girard, Human Resources Director, regarding the Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS) Annual Meeting. Mr. Girard was present and explained that the County has been notified of the Annual MERS Meeting to be held September 25 and 26, 1996 in Bellaire, Michigan. The purpose of the annual meeting is to elect representatives to the MERS Board and to provide information on pending legislation and regulatory changes affecting MERS participants. This will be the first meeting of MERS following the delegate ratification vote on the MERS independence question. Mr. Girard expects that issues important to the future of the retirement system will be discussed. He requested the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Board of Commissioners appoint Mr. Girard as the Employer Delegate, with Finance Manager Gary Yoder as the Employer Alternate Delegate. An election for the Employee Delegate has been scheduled for August 16.

Mr. Girard further explained that two years ago he recommended that the County Board not send delegates to the MERS Annual Convention because the agenda contained no important issues, however, this year’s annual meeting will be different. The funds for attending the Annual MERS Meeting are already budgeted and part of the Human Resource Director’s Budget.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Rapport, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board designate Randell Girard, Human Resources Director as Employer MERS Delegate with Finance Manager Gary Yoder as the Employer Alternate Delegate and that the “Delegate and Alternate Delegate Designation form” will be prepared for signature by the Chairperson after the August 16th election of the Employee Delegate.

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The Committee considered a communication from Lyn Nelson, Community Corrections Coordinator, regarding a local law enforcement block grant program. Ron Koshorek, Interim County Administrator, explained that on June 28th he forwarded information regarding the U.S. Bureau of Justice Law Enforcement Block Grant Program to the Community Corrections Advisory Board. Through this program Marquette County may receive up to $16,456 from the federal government which must be matched 10% locally with $1,828. The funds can be used for several different areas. The one that is receiving local focus is “procuring equipment, technology, and other material directly related to basic law enforcement functions.” Ms. Nelson is preparing proposals for consideration by the Community Corrections Board which include inmate photo imaging, vehicle laser radar guns, and lap top computers. The application must be completed and forwarded to the appropriate offices by Friday, July 19th. The Community Corrections Advisory Board will be meeting July 11th to review the grant. If the CCAB favors the grant Ms. Nelson will forward a complete application to Risk Management for the review process.

Mr. Koshorek requested that the County Board consider the recommendation of the Community Corrections Advisory Board at their July 16th Regular Board Meeting so that the Grant Proposal would meet the July 19, 1996 deadline. Mr. Koshorek also recommended that the local match come from a local agency budget rather than the general fund.

It was moved by Comm. Rapport, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board allow the Community Corrections Advisory Board to come directly to the County Board Meeting on July 16th with the local law enforcement block grant proposal.

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Comm. Rapport pointed out that several citizens have complained about not being able to hear commissioners speaking during televised public meetings. Administrative Staff will evaluate the microphone system in the Commissioner’s meeting room with any recommendations to come a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

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The Committee considered an opinion written by Civil Counsel and mailed to Commissioners regarding the EDC Community Development Block Grant Program. Mr. Payant pointed out that should the County EDC get funding dollars back from a loan, those dollars are still subject to regulations and must comply with CDBG procedures. He wanted to make the Marquette County EDC and the County Board aware of this matter and recommends that an audit be done to be sure that the EDC is in compliance with all CDBG regulations.

It was moved by Comm. Rapport, seconded by Comm. Trudell, and carried by voice vote 7 Ayes to 3 Nays (Comm. Bergdahl, Joseph and Minelli voting Nay), that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board send a letter the Marquette County Economic Development Corporation requesting they have a compliance audit performed on CDBG funds.

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Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. None was forthcoming.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comm. Minelli thanked Undersheriff Michael Quayle and Mike Zorza, Emergency Program Director, for coming to Gwinn during a recent bomb scare. The County Sheriff’s Department did an excellent job of supporting Forsyth Township.

Chairperson thanked Comm. Arsenault for his efforts on the Holli project. Mr. Arsenault helped raise a local match of $750,000 for the project.

Comm. Angeli was asked by some citizens about the Sheriff’s Department having two Seadoos (personal water craft). Mr. Koshorek believes that these water craft were donated to the Sheriff’s Department for their use but will check into the matter and report back to Commissioners.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]
David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Tuesday, July 9, 1996, 6:00 P.M.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI 49855

1. ROLL CALL.
2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON JUNE 25, 1996 AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MEETING HELD ON JUNE 25, 1996.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
6. Update on Annual Audit and Mid-Year Budget Review from Gary Yoder, Finance
Manager.
7. K.I. Sawyer Governance.
8. Adoption of County Community Services and Facilities Plan and the County
Land Use/Value/Ownership Plan.
10. Public Notice: Tilden Mining Company Permit Application to Develop a New
Ore Tailings Basin.
11. Empire Mine Permit Application to Convert Kiln No. 3 by Replacing Existing
Natural Gas Burner.
12a. Lutheran Social Services Application for Title IIIB Funds through UPAAA for
Services to the Elderly.
12b. Marquette General Hospital Home Health Services Application for Title IIIB
Funds to UPAAA for Services to the Elderly.
13. County Board Schedule Change for July/August Suggested by County Clerk (no
packet materials).
14. Announcement: Commissioners Interested in Attending MAC Conference
August 18-21 contact Karla Hardy, Administrator’s Office, by July 22.
15. MEC
16. Local Law Exp.
17. PUBLIC COMMENT.
18. CLOSED SESSION: Civil Counsel Opinion on Open Meetings Act and CDBG
Compliance Audit.
19. ANNOUNCEMENTS.
20. ADJOURNMENT.